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24350 7590 12/20/2010

STITES & HARBISON, PLLC
400 W MARKET ST
SUITE 1800
LOUISVILLE, KY 40202-3352

EXAMINER

DASGUPTA, SOUMYA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/562,987

12/29/2005

Karl Hehl

HE160-000HE

3525

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INTERACTIVE CONTROL OF A MACHINE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	03/21/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/562,987 12/29/2005 Karl Hehl HE160-000HE 3525

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INTERACTIVE CONTROL OF A MACHINE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1510 \$300 \$0 \$1810 03/21/2011

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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DASGUPTA, SOUMYA 2176 715-771000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____

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3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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Date _____

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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24350	7590	12/20/2010	EXAMINER	
STITES & HARBISON, PLLC 400 W MARKET ST SUITE 1800 LOUISVILLE, KY 40202-3352			DASGUPTA, SOUMYA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2176	
DATE MAILED: 12/20/2010				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 831 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 831 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/562,987

Examiner

SOUMYA DASGUPTA

Applicant(s)

HEHL, KARL

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to October 14, 2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

/DOUG HUTTON/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2176

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Terry Wright (Reg No. 57,992) on Dec 14, 2010.

Claims 1 and 15 are amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, where, via an input unit, which is provided with actuating fields, operating parameters necessary for an operating sequence of a machine are input, in a form which prompts an operator, into a data processing unit which stores these operating parameters, and subsequently one or more operating sequences are carried out in accordance with the stored operating parameters, the method comprising:

recording a data set covering basic rules of the operating sequence of the machine in the data processing unit and, by using the data set, providing the operator on a graphical user interface with visualization of a selected choice of input possibilities, based on a machine configuration and a machine environment, for additional parts of

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the operating sequence that can be added in a compatible manner into existing parts of the operating sequence[[,]] ;

providing to an operator, for manual input and/or for input by means of a manipulator, on the graphical user interface a selected choice of actuating fields corresponding to the additional parts of the operating sequence and for navigation on a navigation surface statically arranged on the graphical user interface[[,]] ;

wherein the navigation surface ~~comprising~~ comprises at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields ~~is~~ that are hierarchical from line to line or column to column and ~~is~~ are represented in ~~on~~ the graphical user interface with a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another such that the operator is able to visualize a path through the at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields[[,]] ; and

wherein, when the operator's input is made, even at a hierarchically higher level ~~input possibilities~~ possible input paths are visualized as a selected choice based on the operator's input.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, the apparatus comprising:

a display unit;

a data processing unit[[,]] ;

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an input unit with fields arranged on a graphical user interface for manual input and/or for input by means of a manipulator, by means of which fields, in a form which prompts an operator, operating parameters necessary for an operating sequence of the machine can be input into the data processing unit which stores the operating parameters for subsequently carrying out one or more operating sequences in accordance with the stored operating parameters, wherein the fields are actuating fields for navigation on a navigation surface statically arranged on the graphical user interface, and

a data set recorded in the data processing unit and covering basic rules of the operating sequence of the machine[[,]] ;

wherein the data set provides a selected choice of possible input possibilities for additional parts of the operating sequence, said possible input possibilities being offered to the operator, displayed on-surface the graphical user interface, and based on machine configuration and machine environment, such that the additional parts of the operating sequence can be added in a compatible manner into existing parts of the operating sequence[[,]] ;

wherein the navigation surface ~~comprising~~ comprises at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields ~~is~~ that are hierarchical from line to line or column to column and ~~is~~ are represented ~~in~~ on the graphical user interface with a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another such that the

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operator is able to visualize a path through the at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields[[],] ; and

wherein, when the operator's input is made, even at a hierarchically higher level ~~input possibilities~~ possible input paths are visualized as a selected choice based on the operator's input.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-25 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to disclose every limitation of Claims 1, 15, and 25. More specifically, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a method for interactive control of a plastics material injection molding machine, the method comprising:

- the navigation surface comprises at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields that are hierarchical from line to line or column to column and are represented in the graphical user interface with a plurality of navigation levels associated with one another such that the operator is able to visualize a path through the at least three lines or three columns of actuating and input fields;
- when the operator's input is made, even at a hierarchically higher level possible input paths are visualized as a selected choice based on the operator's input.

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The examiner notes that these features of the present invention are illustrated in Figures 2-5 the Drawings and discussed in detail from Page 5, Line 19 through Page 8, Line 25 in the Specification of the present application.

Regarding Claim 15, the examiner interprets the recited “*apparatus*” to include the following hardware components:

- display unit;

as indicated in Figure 1 of the Drawings. The recited “*input device*” and its associated modules are controlled by, and displayed using, the hardware components of the system, as indicated in Figures 1 of the Drawings, and discussed in detail from Page 4, Line 7 through Page 5, Line 25. Accordingly, Claim 15 recites statutory subject matter, as defined in 35 U.S.C. 101.

Regarding Claim 25, the examiner interprets the recited “non-transitory computer readable medium” (see Line 1) to be a hardware component because one of ordinary skill in the art would interpret a non-transitory data carrier (see Page 8, Lines 22-23) as hardware memory storage device. The method of Claim 1 that is stored on the “non-transitory computer readable medium” is operated on a machine environment. This can be further illustrated in Fig. 1 and incorporated in a “machine” which is discussed in detail from Page 4, Line 7 through Page 5, Line 25. Accordingly, Claim 26 recites statutory subject matter, as defined in 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 2-14:

These claims incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 1 and are thus allowable.

Claims 16-24:

These claims incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 15 and are thus allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Soumya Dasgupta whose telephone number is 571-272-7432. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 9am-7pm, F 9am-1pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Soumya Dasgupta/
Examiner, Art Unit 2176

/DOUG HUTTON/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2176